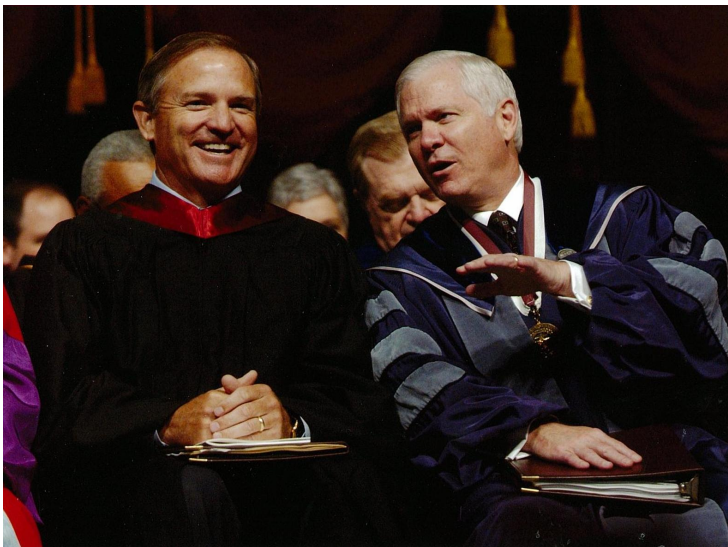


Congressman Chet Edwards '74 is the Senior Texan on the powerful U.S. House Appropriations Committee and is the Chairman of its Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs.

Chet is one of only four Aggies in the U.S. Congress. As the U.S. Representative for College Station since redistricting in 2004, Chet has been responsible for adding \$231.9 million in just 5 years in congressionally directed research programs requested as high priorities by Texas A&M and the A&M System. These include nationally important research for national defense, homeland security, engineering, agriculture, transportation, water and veterans' health care.



Congressman Edwards with Former President and Current Defense Secretary Robert Gates

These research programs attract additional private and public investments in A&M and have helped make A&M one of the elite research universities in the nation. Chet's active support of A&M's nuclear engineering program has contributed to its recent recognition by the International Atomic Energy Agency, along with MIT, as the two top nuclear engineering programs in the nation.

In addition, Chet wrote the federal law that helped create the new Texas A&M Central Texas Campus next to Ft. Hood, Texas.

As a 1974 recipient of A&M's Earl Rudder Award, Chet initiated the joint American-French project to protect Pointe du Hoc (made famous by Rudder's Second Battalion Rangers on D-Day) from being destroyed by wind and water erosion.

Having represented Fort Hood for 14 years, the only two-division U.S. Army installation in the world, Edwards has played a key role in bringing together the Army and Texas A&M on important research projects, including the Army's vital digitization process. Edwards has been awarded the "Legislator of the Year" Award from the Association of the U.S. Army.

Texas A&M University - Central Texas

Working with Secretary of the Army Pete Geren and Texas A&M Chancellor Mike McKinney, Chet recently helped broker the transfer of 672 acres from Fort Hood to the Texas A&M University System for the creation of Texas A&M University - Central Texas in Killeen. The strong relationship between Texas A&M and the United States Army will allow soldiers at Fort Hood and the surrounding community to have access to high level education and training opportunities.

National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC)

Chet, working with members of the Texas delegation, helped to secure \$22 million in funding for homeland security training and projects at the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC) at Texas A&M University. The approved funding reverses a \$12 million proposed cut.

Police, firefighters, and EMS personnel come from across the country to receive first responder training at the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC) at Texas A&M in College Station. NERRTC funding has been singled out as a top public policy priority by the Texas A&M system. If the cuts were not reversed, the number of students trained annually at NERRTC would have dropped dramatically from 40,000 to 9,000 and caused a reduction of 50 instructors and administrative personnel from a staff of 110.

Nuclear Security Science and Policy Institute (NSSPI)

Chet helped create the Nuclear Security Science and Policy Institute (NSSPI) at Texas A&M to dramatically increase important nuclear terrorism research in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Chet, a senior member of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, also secured vital federal funding for the program

The Nuclear Security Science and Policy Institute (NSSPI) was formally created at A&M as a joint initiative between the Nuclear Engineering Department and the Bush School. The funding helps A&M work with the Department of Energy (DOE) to prevent nuclear terrorism and produce the next generation of nuclear security experts. The nuclear engineering program at Texas A&M is considered the nation's largest and fastest growing program in the United States.

Department of Defense Research

Chet has been a strong supporter of federal funds to perform important Department of Defense research at Texas A&M University. These initiatives are important to securing our homeland and protecting our troops on the battlefield. Biochemical Agent Detection research would establish revolutionary new technology for real time detection of biochemical agents in the atmosphere that could be used against our armed forces on the battlefield or against civilians in American cities. The Microencapsulation and Vaccine Delivery Research performs vitally important studies on the one time deliver of vaccines, drugs and antidotes in human medicine using new types of slowly dissolving capsules and nanoparticles.

Easing Transportation Problems

Chet has worked with local leaders to improve transportation and reduce congestion in Brazos County. Over the last two years, Chet has worked to obtain federal funding for the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) to conduct a study in coordination with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the City of College Station, the City of Bryan, and Brazos County. The funding for the study will look into how to reduce traffic congestion in the Brazos Valley and will serve as a model for other cities across the nation.

Pointe du Hoc

Chet Edwards is helping Texas A&M researchers preserve historic Pointe du Hoc, the historic cliff on Omaha Beach in Normandy France that was scaled by Lt. Col. Earl Rudder and his Rudder's Rangers during the June 6, 1944 D-Day Invasion.

Pointe du Hoc is currently at risk due to continuing coastal erosion. Texas A&M researchers are currently working to preserve the site, which contains valuable historic information about the battle. A plaque has been erected on the historic site by the State of Texas honoring Lt. Col. Earl Rudder, who later became President of Texas A&M University.

Agriculture

Congressman Edwards worked to support federal funding for dozens of Texas A&M farming, forestry and animal health research programs proposed for elimination under the Administration's budget proposal. Working with members of the Texas congressional delegation, Edwards was successful in adding funding back into the 2008 Ag bill.

Any thoughts? Comments? Questions? Let us know what you [think](#).

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